UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.17/IPF/1995/2
16 August 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Ad hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests
First Meeting
11-15 September 1995
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON FORESTS

Proposed programme of work and organizational modalities for the open-ended ad hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 1995/226, endorsed the recommendation of the Commission on Sustainable Development to establish an open-ended ad hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests to pursue consensus and coordinated proposals for action to support the management, conservation and sustainable development of forests. In pursing its mandate, the Panel is to focus on 11 issues clustered into five interrelated categories. The Panel is expected to submit a progress report to the Commission at its fourth session, in 1996, and to submit final conclusions and policy recommendations at its fifth session, in 1997.

The work of the Panel is complex and broad in scope and is expected to be completed in a very limited time-frame. In conducting its work, the Panel also needs to consider the outputs of a large number of ongoing processes and initiatives. The Panel will have to draw upon the expertise and resources of relevant organizations within and outside the United Nations system, as well as from all relevant parties, including major groups. The work of the Panel

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will be supported by a small secretariat established within the Commission and by voluntary extrabudgetary contributions. Furthermore, meetings of experts sponsored by one or more countries, international organizations and major groups would contribute to the work of the Panel, particularly on issues that need further analysis and elaboration.

A total of four meetings of the Panel will be held. In view of the large number of complex issues to be addressed by the Panel and a number of ongoing international processes and initiatives, the Panel may wish to schedule its programme of work to address only a few issues at each meeting and to consolidate the conclusions of its deliberations at the fourth meeting. A clustering of items and a schedule for their deliberation by the Panel are proposed in the present report. In organizing its programme of work, the Panel may wish to give consideration to the nature and form of its final report, to be presented to the Commission in 1997. It is proposed that the following elements be considered for inclusion in the final report:

(a) Progress on forest-related issues since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, at the national, regional and international levels, including the work undertaken by international organizations and multilateral institutions and an agenda for future action;

(b) Further recommendations for policy at the national and international levels;

(c) New commitments to effectively address forest-related issues, including trade and environment and international policy instruments;

(d) Approaches to strengthening international cooperation in the form of financial assistance and the transfer of appropriate technologies.

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BACKGROUND

1. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1995, adopted the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests (Forest Principles). The Conference also adopted Agenda 21, including chapter 11, entitled "Combating deforestation". Subsequently, the Commission on Sustainable Development was established to review progress achieved in the implementation of decisions and commitments made at UNCED and to promote partnership and cooperation for sustainable development. At its third session (New York, 11-28 April 1995), the Commission reviewed progress achieved in the implementation of the Forest Principles and chapter 11, in accordance with its multi-year programme of work. The conclusions and recommendations of the Commission on this matter are contained in its report on its third session (E/1995/32, chap. I, sect. D, paras. 200-204). In particular, the Commission recommended the establishment, under its aegis, of an open-ended ad hoc Intergovernmental Panel on Forests; that recommendation was subsequently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1995/226.

2. The Commission decided that in pursuing a consensus and the formulation of coordinated proposals for action, the Panel should consider the following main interrelated categories of issues:

(a) Implementation of UNCED decisions on forest-related issues at the national and international levels, including an examination of sectoral and cross-sectoral linkages;

(b) International cooperation in financial assistance and technology transfer;

(c) Scientific research, forest assessment and the development of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management;

(d) Trade and environment relating to forest products and services;

(e) International organizations and multilateral institutions and instruments, including appropriate legal mechanisms.

3. Furthermore, the Commission approved the following programme of work for the Panel:

PROGRAMME OF WORK

I

1. Consider actions to promote progress through national forests and land use plans and programmes in implementing the Forest Principles, and chapter 11 and other chapters related to forests in Agenda 21, through an open, transparent and participatory process involving Governments and all

interested parties, including major groups, particularly indigenous people and local communities.

2. Identify and consider ways to address the underlying causes of deforestation, forest degradation and the difficulties in implementing sustainable forest management, with particular attention to cross-sectoral factors, including the impact on and from forests, at the national and international levels, such as consumption and production patterns, poverty, population growth, pollution, terms of trade, discriminatory trade practices and unsustainable policies related to sectors such as agriculture, energy, and trade.

3. Consistent with the terms of the Convention on Biological Diversity, encourage countries to consider ways and means for the effective protection and use of traditional forest-related knowledge, innovations and practices of forest dwellers, indigenous people and other local communities, as well as fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from such knowledge, innovations and practices.

4. Monitor actions to support afforestation, reforestation and the restoration of forest systems, where appropriate, particularly in countries with fragile ecosystems and affected by desertification and/or drought, particularly in Africa. Within this context, also consider specific actions in countries whose forests are affected by pollution, particularly those with economies in transition in central and eastern Europe.

5. Propose measures to address the needs and requirements of developing countries and other countries with low forest cover in order to promote the activities aimed at conserving the existing coverage, with particular attention to the unique types of forests.

II

1. Explore ways of improving the efficiency and coordination of bilateral and multilateral assistance; and consider ways to address the critical areas relating to the transfer and development of environmentally sound technology on favourable terms as mutually agreed and the mobilization of financial resources, including the provision of new and additional resources with a view to assisting developing countries to pursue policies and comprehensive strategies for achieving sustainable forest management, recalling principles 10 and 11 of the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests, and the Rome Statement on Forestry agreed by Ministers Responsible for Forests in March 1995.

III

1. Review existing periodic assessment of forests, including relevant socio-economic and environmental factors, at the global level; identify shortfalls in present assessments relative to policy considerations; and recommend practical ways of improving such assessments. Examine ways to

broaden the scientific knowledge and the statistical database available in order to better understand the ecological, economic, cultural and social functions performed by all types of forests. Promote the further development of methodologies for properly valuing the multiple benefits derived from forests in the form of goods and services, and subsequently to consider their inclusion in the systems of national accounting, drawing upon work that has been already undertaken by the United Nations and other relevant organizations.

2. Encourage national implementation of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management and study the feasibility of further developing internationally agreed upon criteria and indicators against which progress towards sustainable forest management of all types of forests could be measured, taking into account the specific regional and subregional conditions of forests and the diversity of economic, social and cultural environments. Within this context, facilitate the engagement of regions and countries not yet involved in developing criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management; share experiences in testing and implementing them; and examine the need to promote comparability and the appropriateness of convergence among international initiatives in this regard.

IV

1. Examine relevant factors affecting trade in forest products and other forest-trade issues in an integrated and holistic approach that promotes a supportive relationship between trade and environment. In this connection, identify opportunities and recommend measures for improving market access for forest products on a non-discriminatory basis and consider factors that may distort trade in forest products and affect their value, including pricing, import/export controls, subsidies and the need to remove unilateral bans and boycotts inconsistent with the rules of the international trade system. Promote the development of methodologies to advance the full valuation, including replacement and environmental costs, of forest goods and services, with a view to promoting full cost internalization. Taking account of the interests of all sectors and particularities of different countries and ensuring full transparency and participation of all interested parties, examine the issue of voluntary certification and labelling of forest products so as to contribute to a better understanding of the role of voluntary certification with regard to the sustainable management of forests including the impact of certification on developing countries.

V

1. Develop a clearer view of the work being carried out by international organizations and multilateral institutions and under existing instruments as appropriate, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing serious drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and

Flora (CITES) and the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA), in forest-related issues, including UNCED decisions related to forests, and the institutional linkages emanating therefrom, in order to identify any gaps, and areas requiring enhancement, as well as any areas of duplication.

2. In the light of issues I to V.1 above, based on consensus-building in a step-by-step process, consider and advise on the need, or otherwise, for other instruments or arrangements in further implementation of the Forest Principles, including appropriate legal arrangements and mechanisms covering all types of forests. (E/1995/32, chap. I, sect. D, annex I, sect. III)

4. The Commission on Sustainable Development decided that the Panel will submit a progress report to the Commission at its fourth session, in 1996, and will submit final conclusions, recommendations and proposals for action at its fifth session, in 1997. In this context, it should be noted that in 1997 the Commission will conduct an overall review of progress achieved since UNCED in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly, as envisaged in Assembly resolution 47/190; the Panel will contribute to that review.

I. POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF THE WORK OF THE PANEL

5. The tasks faced by the Panel are complex and challenging. In a short period of time, the Panel will have to study and assess a vast array of information and data on forest-related issues that are already available within and outside the United Nations system. In addition, the Panel will need to review the results of a number of recent and ongoing intergovernmental processes and expert consultations. Those results will then need to be integrated into a clear set of conclusions and policy recommendations for advancing international understanding and consensus on forest issues: on that basis, the Panel is expected to propose coherent approaches to addressing the problem of the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

6. The programme of work of the Panel includes issues that are at different degrees of maturity in terms of common understanding of their various aspects and international consensus on approaches to addressing them. On some issues, it is realistic to expect that in two years the Panel will come up with conclusive results; on others, the Panel is more likely to provide improved understanding and guidance for the future direction of international dialogue and consensus-building.

7. The final document to be submitted by the Panel in 1997 for the consideration of the Commission could consist of the following main components:

(a) Assessment of:

(i) Progress achieved since UNCED in the implementation of the Forest Principles and chapter 11, of Agenda 21;

(ii) Work by international organizations and multilateral institutions under existing mandates and instruments on forest-related issues: a

cohesive review of the current state of such issues, including their interface with other sectors and cross-sectoral factors, and the formulation of options and opportunities for future action;

(b) Further policy recommendations for comprehensive national and international strategies aimed at the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests;

(c) New commitments at the national and international levels and by major groups regarding the future action and cooperation that will be required to effectively address forest-related issues, including trade and environment and international policy instruments;

(d) Approaches to strengthening international cooperation in the form of future commitments for financial assistance, the transfer of appropriate technologies and institutional arrangements.

II. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE PANEL

8. The work before the Panel is characterized by two main considerations: first, the broad scope and complexity of issues that need to be dealt with in a very limited time-frame; second, the fact that in planning its work the Panel needs to consider the anticipated outputs of a large number of ongoing processes and initiatives in order to develop a cohesive and comprehensive perspective and to formulate options for future action.

9. When recommending the establishment of the Panel, the Commission on Sustainable Development decided that it should draw in particular on the resources and technical expertise of relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and other organizations within and outside the United Nations system, as well as the secretariats of relevant conventions, with appropriate contributions by non-governmental organizations. Indeed, a vast amount of work has recently been carried out or is currently under way in international organizations and the non-governmental community on issues to be dealt with by the Panel. Furthermore, there are a number of forest-related initiatives and processes recently launched by groups of interested countries and within various regions and subregions, including initiatives undertaken by Amazon and Central American countries, the Malaysia/Canada, India/United Kingdom and Centre for International Forest Research (CIFOR)/Indonesia initiatives, and the Helsinki and Montreal processes. A more detailed tabulation of information on activities relevant to the programme of work of the Panel, entitled "Recent, current, and planned activities related to the programme of work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests", is contained in the annex to the present report. It should be noted that the list of activities in the annex may not be complete; the Panel is invited to bring additional information to the attention of the secretariat.

10. Successful implementation of the Panel mandate appears to require the achievement of two main objectives: first, ensuring an in-depth consideration of all the categories and issues included in the terms of reference, of the Panel, such as building on existing knowledge and expected outcomes of various activities, initiatives and processes currently under way; and second, elaborating a basis for an integrated policy approach to forest-related issues. Bearing in mind the limited time available for Panel meetings, it will not be possible for each meeting to address simultaneously all the categories and issues included in the Panel mandate. Rather, at its second and third meetings the Panel may wish to focus on a limited number of different issues within its overall terms of reference so as to ensure their in-depth consideration. At its fourth and final meeting, the Panel may wish to consider integrating the outcomes of the previous meetings and analysing the linkages between various categories and issues.

11. More specifically, with reference to the approved programme of work reproduced in paragraph 3 above, it is suggested that at its second meeting, in March 1996, the Panel focus on categories and issues I.1, I.3, II and V.1, and that at the third meeting, in fall 1996, it address categories and issues I.2, I.4, I.5, III and IV. In accordance with the recommendation of the Commission, issue V.2 could be considered in relation to other categories and issues under consideration, as required. All categories could be considered in an integrated way during the fourth session in early 1997, when the Panel is expected to finalize its recommendations.

12. The proposed scheduling and clustering of categories and issues is not related to any particular order of priorities but is based on the expected timing of the outcomes of various ongoing and planned activities and studies, as well as on the time required by the secretariat to ensure high-quality preparations for the consideration of the Panel.

13. The need to maintain healthy forests world wide and to manage them sustainably to meet multiple demands by future generations is a challenge faced collectively by the international community. Since UNCED, notable progress has been in the level of awareness, adaptation of policies and preparation of national plans and strategies to promote sustainable forest management. Several country-led forums have contributed significantly to the international dialogue on forests. For example, significant advances have been made on national reporting and on better understanding of sustainable forest management, particularly by formulating a set of compatible criteria and indicators applicable to the boreal, temperate and tropical forests. As outlined in paragraph 9 above, there is a broad range of recent, ongoing and planned activities the outcomes of which are relevant to programme elements of the work of the Panel (see annex). However, there are a number of issues that need consideration by the Panel in a cohesive, comprehensive and integrated manner. In undertaking its programme of work, the Panel may wish to consider the need for additional preparatory and analytical work, such as expert studies and meetings, before it considers a given issue. Such preparatory work on various programme elements could include:

(a) Programme element I.1, "... national forest and land-use plans ..." (also related to I.2 and II): preparation of a report presenting an overview of

current approaches to national strategies, in particular the links between national forest plans and sustainable development strategies/plans, land-use plans and sectoral plans, including actions required under conventions, and a synthesis of lessons learned. Deliberations by the Panel could benefit from holding an appropriate expert meeting prior to the second meeting of the Panel. The Government of Germany is sponsoring a consultative process and a workshop to address the issue;

(b) Programme element I.2, "... underlying causes of deforestation ... and ... cross-sectoral factors ...": preparation of a synthesis paper on underlying causes and cross-sectoral influences on forest degradation and deforestation, based on a review that would bring together key work done in the area and identify gaps in order to guide further work. Following such a review, it would be useful to undertake a few quantitative and scientific case-studies at the national or subnational level, which could include the involvement of a cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary expert group consisting of economists, agronomists, anthropologists, ecologists, foresters and policy experts. Depending on the availability of time and resources, the review could then be discussed together with the case-studies in regional workshops in order to refine and amplify the conclusions and recommendations, which could subsequently be synthesized into a report for the consideration of the Panel;

(c) Programme element I.3, "... protection and use of traditional forest-related knowledge ...": preparation of a synthesis paper mainly based on the work of the Working Party of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources;

(d) Programme element I.4, "monitor actions ... in Africa ... also consider ... central and eastern Europe": preparation of an analytical report on experience with afforestation and reforestation, particularly in Africa, including progress in the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification, as well as an assessment of the impact of airborne pollutants on forests in central and eastern Europe and an assessment of ongoing activities and proposals for possible future action;

(e) Programme element I.5, "Propose measures ... countries with low forest cover": preparation of a study on the specific needs of countries with low forest cover, particularly developing countries in which communities and forest dwellers depend on forests to meet their subsistence needs, such as fuel, food, forage, shelter and medicinal plants;

(f) Programme element II "... coordination of bilateral and multilateral assistance ...": preparation of a study on possible ways and means of enhancing efficiency in delivering forest programmes, including proposals for cooperation among United Nations agencies, in particular the World Bank, and between multilateral and bilateral donors. Holding a meeting sponsored by one or two countries would be valuable for formulating an expert perspective on the issue;

(g) Programme element III.1, "... assessment of forests, ... scientific knowledge ... valuing ... forest ... goods and services ...": preparation of a discussion paper to consider a framework for expanded and enhanced forest

assessment with a view to obtaining more qualitative information on environmental and social benefits, as well as information on other non-wood forest products and biological resources; preparation of a discussion paper presenting the status of current approaches to valuing the multiple benefits of forests as well as an assessment of progress towards application and the incorporation of innovative approaches into national accounts; holding a meeting of experts co-sponsored by one or more countries would be a useful way to enriching understanding of this complex issue;

(h) Programme element III.2, "criteria and indicators": holding an expert meeting on compatibility and convergence between various initiatives on criteria and indicators would be very useful. The proposed intergovernmental seminar in Finland could serve to integrate the numerous initiatives and processes relevant to the issue. A paper to build on the outcome of various initiatives, as well as of FAO/UNEP regional meetings, needs to be prepared prior to the discussion of the issue by the Panel;

(i) Programme element IV, "... trade in forest products ... environment ... market access ... valuation ... certification and labelling ...": preparation of a discussion paper to address trade in forest products and prevailing market mechanisms, including market access and prices on non-wood products; the review and assessment of the nature and the current status of various schemes/initiatives on product certification and labelling; and the formulation of an internationally accepted basis for product certification and labelling schemes and initiatives. Holding a meeting of experts sponsored by a country or countries would be most helpful in addressing these crucial issues;

(j) Programme elements V.1 and 2: "... institutions and ... instruments ...": preparation of a paper presenting an overview of existing institutions and instruments and identifying overlaps and gaps. Options for future action would be a major item for consideration at the fourth meeting of the Panel.

14. The proposals contained in paragraph 13 (a) to (j) above would result in the schedule outlined in the table below; for ease of reference, the table also includes a list and, when available, the dates for other meetings that might be relevant to the work of the Panel.

Proposed schedule of programme elements for Panel consideration

September 1995 - March 1996

Preparation of documents for the second meeting of the Panel

I.1: Report presenting an overview of current approaches to national strategies, including links between national forest plans and sustainable development strategies/plans, land use plans and sectoral plans, including actions required under conventions, including a synthesis of "lessons learned".

I.3 Synthesis paper mainly based on the work under the Working Party of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources.

II Study on possible ways and means of enhancing efficiency in delivering forest programmes including proposals for cooperation: (i) among UN agencies, including the World Bank; (ii) between multi- and bi-lateral donors.

V.1 Paper presenting an overview of existing institutions and instruments, identifying overlaps, gaps.

Expert meetings

I.1 Consultative process and workshop to be sponsored by Germany

II Proposed Expert Group, to be co-sponsored by one or more countries *

* No sponsor identified as yet.

Other meetings relevant to the programme elements for consideration at the Second Meeting of the Panel

I.1 October 1995: UN task Force on National Sustainable Development Strategies to meet with bilateral donors and OECD/DAC Working Party on Development Assistance and the Environment to discuss modalities for coordination, related to national sustainable development strategies.

6-17 November 1995: Second meeting of Conference of the Parties of the Convention of Biological Diversity (COP of CBD). Consideration implementation of Article 6 on adoption of national strategies, plans and programmes of action for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Jakarta, Indonesia.

I.3 1996: Third session of COP of CBD will consider the implementation of Article 8(j) on indigenous people.

June 1996: Fourth International Technical Conference on Plant Genetic Resources, Berlin.

II November- December 1995: Forest Advisory Group Meeting

FAO/Regional Workshops on Technology Transfer for Better Utilization of Forest Resources.

1995: FAO/IUFRO Satellite meeting; Research on Environmentally Sound Forest Practices to Sustain Tropical Forests.

6-17 November 1995: Second meeting of COP of CBD. Consideration of establishing a clearing house mechanism for technical and scientific cooperation which will contribute to the transfer of technology. Consideration also of a study on the availability of financial resources additional to those through GEF and the ways and means for mobilizing and channelling these in support of the objectives of the Convention. Jakarta, Indonesia.

1996: FAO/ECE/ILO Seminar on Environmentally Sound Forest Roads and Wood Transport, Romania.

1997: FAO/IUFRO/CIFOR Regional Expert Consultations on Low Impact Forest Operations to Sustain Tropical Forests in Asia, Latin America and Africa.

March 1996 Second Meeting of the Panel

Programme elements to be addressed:

I.1, I.3, II and V.1
V.2 to be considered in relation to other themes under consideration, as required.
Consideration of the progress report to CSD 4

April 1996 - September 1996

Preparation of documents for the Third Meeting of the Panel

I.2 Synthesis paper on underlying causes and cross-sectoral influences on forest degradation and deforestation based on review which would bring together key work done in this area and identify gaps in order to guide further work.

I.4 Analytical report on the experience with afforestation and reforestation, particularly in Africa, including progress in the implementation of the Convention on Combatting Desertification; and an assessment of the impact of air-borne pollutants on forests in Central and Eastern Europe and an assessment of on-going activities and suggesting possible future action.

I.5 Study on specific needs of countries with low forest cover, particularly developing countries where communities and forest dwellers depend on forests to meet their subsistence needs such as fuel, food, forage, shelter, medicinal plants etc.

III.1 (i) Discussion paper leading towards a framework for expanded and enhanced forest assessment with a view to obtaining more qualitative information on environmental and social benefits, as well as information on other non-wood forest products and biological resources.

(ii) Discussion paper presenting status of current approaches to valuate the multiple benefits of forests and an assessment of progress towards application and incorporation of innovative approaches into national accounts

III.2 Paper resulting from various regional FAO/UNEP meetings and country initiated processes to be considered for integration at an Intergovernmental Meeting to be sponsored by Finland on 16-19 September 1996.

IV Discussion paper addressing (i) trade in forest products and prevailing market mechanisms, including market access and prices on non-wood products, (ii) review and assessment of the nature and the current status of various schemes/initiatives on product certification and labeling, and (iii) formulation of internationally accepted basis for product certification and labelling schemes and initiatives.

Expert meetings

I.2 Proposed involvement of a cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary expert group to undertake a few quantitative and scientific case studies at the national or sub-national level; *

Proposed regional workshops to refine and amplify conclusions and recommendations which then could be synthesized into a report for consideration of the Panel.*

III.1 Proposed Expert Group Meeting on a framework for expanded and enhanced forest assessment. See above under documentation for third meeting III.1 (i).*

Proposed Expert Group Meeting on status of valuation discussion. See above under documentation for third meeting III.1 (ii).*

III.2 Intergovernmental Meeting to be sponsored by Finland on 16-19 September 1996. See also below under other meetings relevant for the third meeting.

IV Proposed Expert Group Meeting on trade and related issues. *

* No sponsor identified as yet.

Other meetings relevant to the programme elements for consideration at the Third Meeting of the Panel

I.2 Sometime in 1996: Third session of COP of CBD will consider item of agriculture biodiversity.

I.4 November 1995: FAO/UNEP Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Dry -Zone Africa, Nairobi.

November 1995: Meeting of African Forestry and Wildlife Commission, south Africa.

I.5 See I.4 (above) and III.1 (below)

III.1 1996 or 1997: FAO Meeting with forestry inventory experts to agree on definitions and methods for the next round of global assessment.

FAO Meetings aiming at capacity building in forestry inventory and its integration in strategic planning.

III.2 30 October-4 November 1995: Montreal Process meeting on criteria and indicators for sustainable management of boreal and temperate forests. New Zealand

November 1995: Helsinki Process round table on criteria and indicators for the Pan-European region, Brussels

November 1995: FAO/UNEP Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Dry -Zone Africa, Nairobi.

May 1996: FAO/UNEP Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management for the Near East.

Mid 1996: FAO/UNEP Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management for Central America and the Caribbean.

1997: FAO Expert Meeting on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management. Rome.

IV Some of the meetings in relation to III.1, included above, are also relevant to this item.

July 1995: ISO/CSO (Canadian Standards Association) meeting to discuss ISO 14,000 in relation to forest products certification.

July 1995: Forest Stewardship Council meeting on accreditation of the first few national and foreign certification companies/programmes.

UNEP/Regional Development Banks Regional Work Shops on the relationship between environment and trade.

WTO Committee on Trade and Environment to report to next ministerial Meeting regarding whether specific WTO rules require modification for environmental purposes.

September 1996 -Third Meeting of the Panel

Programme elements to be addressed:

I.2, I.4, I.5, III and IV
V.2 to be considered in relation to other themes under consideration, as required.

September 1996 - until the Panel's Fourth Meeting

Preparation of documents for the Fourth Meeting

Document consolidating results from the Second and Third Meetings of the Panel and identifying linkages between the programme elements.

Other meetings relevant to the items for Fourth Meeting of the Panel

See above under each programme element

Early 1997 Fourth Meeting of the Panel

Programme elements to be addressed:
All themes to be considered in an integrated way.

Consideration and adoption of the report for CSD 5

Fifth session of the CSD

Consideration of the report of the Panel

III. SUGGESTED METHODS OF WORK

15. To meet the 1997 deadline for the conclusion of the work of the Panel, it would be highly desirable to reach a consensus on conclusions and recommendations on the programme elements deliberated at the second and third meetings of the Panel, which would then constitute draft elements for the final report. At its fourth meeting, the Panel may wish to examine linkages, integrate results, as appropriate, and adopt the final document for presentation to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifth session.

16. The Commission decided that the ultimate responsibility for the process and the product of the Panel would reside with the Panel itself. To assist the Panel, the secretariat, through inter-agency collaboration, could prepare analytical report(s) for each of the programme elements under consideration by drawing upon:

(a) Outcomes of recent and current activities, studies and initiatives;

(b) Contributions from all relevant parties, including major groups and non-governmental organizations;

(c) Analytical studies, research papers and expert meetings, as suggested in paragraph 13 above.

17. These report(s) would contain recommendations on possible action and policy options at the international and national levels for consideration by the Panel.

18. The duration of each meeting of the Panel is envisaged not to exceed one week. Recognizing the wide range of issues to be addressed, the Panel may consider dividing its work, during its second and third meetings, between two (or more) in-session working groups. For example, during the second session one such working group could examine programme elements I.1 and I.3, while another working group could focus on programme elements II and V.1. However, the proposed process should be seen to be flexible and appropriate in-session adjustments could be made. Organizational modalities for the fourth meeting may be considered later at the third meeting, taking into account the progress made and the need for an integrated approach.

IV. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF MAJOR GROUPS

19. The Commission on Sustainable Development decided that the full range of non-governmental organizations would participate as observers in the Panel, on an open-ended and fully participatory basis. Indeed, in the work of the Panel it would be essential to consider the perspectives and concerns of all major groups.

20. According to rule 24 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the rules of procedure of the Commission shall apply to the proceedings of its subsidiary organs in so far as they are applicable. Accordingly, since the Panel is a subsidiary body of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the rules of procedure of the Panel for

the participation of non-governmental organizations would be the same as those for the Commission itself, i.e., the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council as supplemented in Council decision 1993/215 of 12 February 1993.

21. Additional informal arrangements could also be considered to enhance the effectiveness of the participation of major groups in the work of the Panel, including:

(a) Organizing round-table discussions or forums with the active participation of major group representatives as speakers and discussants, to be held in conjunction with Panel meetings;

(b) Conducting various side-events/presentations led by and/or with the active participation of major groups;

(c) Holding informal dialogue sessions between the representatives of Governments, international organizations and the non-governmental organizations community.

22. In addition, during inter-sessional periods the secretariat of the Panel will maintain active and open communication with major groups so as to solicit their views and contributions with a view to ensuring opportunities for their substantive input into both documentation and the delineation of issues being considered by the Panel.

23. Encouraging steps have been taken by major groups to increase the effectiveness of their involvement in the work of the Commission. This approach could also be used as a model for their interaction with the Panel and its secretariat. Taking into account the potentially large number of major group organizations that may be interested in the work of the Panel, it would be important, to the extent possible, to provide coordinated inputs to the work of the Panel.

V. SECRETARIAT AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE PANEL

24. The Commission decided that secretariat support to the Panel should be provided by a small team under the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat, possibly coordinated by a temporary direct hire, assuming the availability of funds, and with the secondment of relevant personnel from United Nations system and other organizations, where relevant, particularly FAO as task manager for forests in the United Nations system, UNEP, UNDP and ITTO. The Commission further decided that the Panel secretariat would relay tasks from the Panel to appropriate organizations, develop and maintain an effective communication system between the Panel and organizations, and undertake logistical meeting preparations and document dissemination. Under the direction of the Panel, its secretariat would also facilitate the coordination of work undertaken.

25. The Commission felt that the operation of the Panel would require funding to support meetings and participation by developing country representatives and

major groups from developing countries. The Commission stressed that, in addition to drawing on existing resources where efficient, the following sources of funding should be considered:

(a) Voluntary extrabudgetary contributions from Governments and international organizations to support the work of the Panel;

(b) Secondments from international organizations;

(c) In-kind contributions from countries and international organizations, including hosting meetings.

26. In order to facilitate the deliberations of the Panel, it is essential for the secretariat to undertake advance preparatory work, which would involve assistance in the organization of meetings of experts as well as synthesizing and integrating the outputs of various initiatives and analyses. The extent of the preparatory work would be largely dependent on the resources available to the secretariat.

27. The Secretary-General, in his note verbale, of 21 June 1995, requested contributions to the trust fund for the Panel. Governments and organizations are encouraged to consider making voluntary contributions to ensure adequate support for the work of the Panel. These contributions will be needed to: (a) support meetings and participation by developing country representatives and major groups from developing countries; (b) meet the requirements for substantive support and servicing of the Panel by the Department; and (c) organize studies and expert consultations as well as for consultancy.

28. Generous contributions to supporting the work of the Panel were recently made by the Government of Switzerland, which has also offered to host the meetings of the Panel, while the ITTO Council has decided to provide funding for the Coordinator and UNDP has agreed to second human resources for the work of the Panel secretariat. However, additional resources will still be required to support the work of the Panel.

29. Immediately after the establishment of the Panel, the Department initiated inter-agency consultations with a view to mobilizing the active involvement of all relevant organizations in the preparations for the first meeting of the Panel. In that context, an inter-agency meeting was convened in Geneva on 20 and 21 July 1995 to discuss specific organizational arrangements for supporting the work of the Panel as well as to review proposals to implement its programme of work; the proposals contained in the present report are largely based on the outcome of that meeting.

30. The Inter-Agency Commission on Sustainable Development (IACSD), at its sixth session, expressed strong support for the work of the Panel. The Committee underscored the fact that support for the Panel would require a consistent system-wide approach and active collaboration among the organizations of the United Nations system. Furthermore, the Committee felt that meetings of the organizations most directly concerned with forest issues, particularly FAO, UNEP, UNDP, the World Bank, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and ITTO, should be held as required by the work programme of the

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
I.1 continued	•Workshop on preparation of Guidelines for the Formulation of a Policy Framework for Integrated Planning and Management of Land Resources.		FAO/ UNEP			
	• Review of land use and other polices affecting forest management in West Africa.		UNEP/ CIFOR			
				"Development Cooperation" OECD/DAC Report 1994	OECD/DAC	
				"UNEP Forestry Policy" Nov. 1995	UNEP	
		•Second meeting of COP of CBD, will consider implementation of Article 6 on adoption of national strategies, plans and programmes of action for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Jakarta, Indonesia **6-17 Nov. 1996**	CBD			
	•UN Task Force on National Sustainable Development Strategies.	•UN Task Force on Nat'l Sust. Dev. Strategies to meet with bilateral donors and OECD/DAC Working Party on Development Assistance & the Environment to discuss modalities for coordination, **Oct. 1995.** •UN Task Force on Nat'l Sust. Dev. Strategies to make recommendations to the IACSD, **Feb. 1996**.	UN agencies, chaired by UNDP OECD/DAC			

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PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
I.2 Underlying causes of deforestation, and cross-sectoral impacts on forest use.	•Application of World Bank "Environmental Assessment Procedures" to all sectors to assess impact on forests		World Bank	Documentation?		Fairly large amount of work has been done in a general way on this issue. No overall synthesis and only scattered in depth analysis available.
	•Detailed survey of current practices (within and outside the Bank) in environmental assessment of forestry projects.		World Bank	Environmental Assessment Source Book on Forest Resource Management. May 1995	World Bank	Synthesis paper on underlying causes and cross-sectoral influences on forest degradation and deforestation, based on review which would bring together key work done in this area and identify gaps in order to guide further work. Following this review , it would be useful to undertake a few quantitative and scientific case studies at the national or sub-national level; this could include involvement of a cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary expert group consisting of economists, agronomists, anthropologists, ecologists, foresters and policy experts. The review, together with the case studies could then be discussed in regional workshops in order to refine and amplify the conclusions and recommendations which could subsequently be synthesized into a report for consideration of the Panel.
		•Second meeting of COP of CBD, will consider components of biodiversity particularly those under threat. Jakarta, Indonesia **6-17 Nov. 1996.**	CBD			
	•Review of Forest Management Practices in West Africa		UNEP/ CIFOR			
		•Review of best practices	UNEP/FAO/ CIFOR			
	•Work on guidelines for the integrated planning and management of land resources.		FAO	Guidelines for interactive land use planning at national and local level.	FAO	
				"Soils of Tropical Rain Forests; characterization and major constraints of dominant soils"(submitted to International Conference on Forest Soils, Indonesia Nov. 15 1995)	FAO	
	•Five country profiles on forestry and population		FAO			
				"Forestry development and policy dilemmas" - special chapter on forests in State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 1994	FAO	

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PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
Continued I.2 **related agriculture and energy sector policies**	•Regularization of traditional forms of land tenure. (customary and group rights)		FAO	"Strategies for sustainable agriculture and rural development: new directions for agriculture, forestry and fisheries, 1994." "Forestry Paper 90: Forestry and food security" 1989	FAO FAO	
	•Preparation of food and nutrition strategies in vulnerable households in forested areas.		FAO	"Considering Nutrition in national Forestry Action Plans" (final edition forthcoming) "Forestry Paper 48: Land evaluation for forestry" 1984. "Forestry Paper 50: Changes in shifting cultivation in Africa" 1984	FAO	
	•$3 million research project on trends and patterns in shifting cultivation, global scope.		UNDP-GEF, executed by ICRAF		FAO	
	•On-going Partnership Programme in Sustainable Food Security		FAO/ UNDP			
		•Third session of COP of CBD will consider item of agriculture biodiversity. **1996**	CBD			
	•2020 Vision for Food, Agriculture and Environment		UNEP/IFPRI			
consumption & production patterns	•Work on wood as a source for energy: Efficient use of wood fuels; Plant oils for bio-fuels; Electricity generation form wood wastes; Planning wood energy systems	•Interregional Expert Consultations on "Bioenergy, Environment and Development"	FAO	"Efficient use of wood fuels in households" "Forestry Paper 108: A decade of wood energy activities within the Nairobi Programme of Action" 1993 "Wood Energy Development" 1993 "Wood Energy Flows" 1995 "Proceedings of the Latin American Cooperative Network on Dendro-energy" 1994	World Business Council on Sust. .Dev't.	
	•Oslo Round-table on Consumption and Production Patterns, February 1995. [Report available, CSD'95 called for its recommendations to be implemented by countries].			Global study on the environmentally sound production and use of paper. Forthcoming.		

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
I.3 Protection & use of indigenous knowledge, as well as equitable sharing of benefits arising from such use.	•General work by the COP of the Convention on Biological Diversity, access to genetic resources included in its medium-term work programme, 1995-97	•Third session of COP of CBD will consider the implementation of Article 8(j) on indigenous people. **1996**	COP of the CBD			Synthesis paper mainly based on the work under the Working Party of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological diversity and the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources.
	•Global fora on biodiversity.		IUCN			
	•Work by FAO's Commission on Plant Genetic Resources & Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources.	•Fourth International Technical Conference on Plant Genetic Resources, Berlin, **June 1996**, [with regional and sub-regional workshops leading up to the conference].	FAO	•"FAO's Programmes and Activities in Support of the Conservation and Monitoring of Genetic Resources and Biological Diversity in Forest Ecosystems", August, 1994. •Revision of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources, including "Farmers' Rights". Forthcoming. • Global Plan of Action on Plant Genetic Resources and Report of the Fourth International Technical Conference on Plant genetic Resources, Berlin, **June 1996**	FAO	
				Guidelines on Planning Sustainable management of Non-Wood Forest Products. Forthcoming.	FAO	
				"Non-Wood Forest products and Nutrition"- Satellite paper for FAO expert consultation on non-wood forest products , Jogyakarta, January 1995.	FAO	
	•Promotion of production and consumption of under-exploited foods, including non-conventional foods (mostly wild species)		FAO			

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
continued I.3				Policy report on new and rapidly evolving legal and institutional mechanisms for regulating the exploration of wild plant, animal and microbial substances.	WRI	
	•On-going GEF biodiversity projects, valued at $303 million. Reports available, include activities relating to indigenous knowledge.		GEF	"Conserving Indigenous knowledge: Integrating Two Systems of Innovation"	UNDP/Rural Advancement Foundation International	
	• Guidelines for Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans		UNEP/WRI			
	• Biodiversity Country Studies		UNEP/GEF			
	• Biodiversity Data Management		UNEP/ WCMC/GEF			
	• Global Biodiversity Assessment		UNEP/GEF			

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
I.4 Support for afforestation, and restoration of forests in fragile eco-systems, esp. in countries affected by desertification, particularly in Africa, and pollution, particularly in Eastern Europe.	•Activities In I.2 are relevant here as well.					Analytical report on the experience with afforestation and reforestation, particularly in Africa, including progress in the implementation of the Convention on Combatting Desertification. Also included would be an assessment of the impact of air-borne pollutants on forests in Central and Eastern Europe and an assessment of on-going activities and proposals for possible future action.
	•Ongoing activities by UNDP/UNSO to implement the desertification convention.		UNDP/ UNSO			
	•Work by FAO's Regional Forestry Commissions in Africa	•FAO/UNEP **Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in Dry-Zone Africa**, Nov, 1995.	FAO/ UNEP	Secretariat Note on on-going initiatives and their progress, three case studies of trends and needs in Western, Eastern and Southern dry-zone Africa. [To be prepared for expert group on c&i].		
	•FAO/ECE Timber Committee on forest conditions in Europe		FAO			
		•African Forestry and Wildlife Commission meeting, South Africa, **upcoming, Nov. 1995**.	AFWC			
				Environment management Guidelines for Integrated Management of Mountain Ecosystems	UNEP	
	•Policy and guideline development for sustainable forest management in Eastern Europe		UNEP			
		•Resource assessment of the Russian "Taiga" (Boreal Forest)	UNEP/GEF			

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
I.5 Needs of developing countries with low forest cover	•Activities in I. 4 and III. 1 are relevant here as well.					Study on specific needs of countries with low forest cover, particularly developing countries where communities and forest dwellers depend on forests to meet their subsistence needs such as fuel, food, forage, shelter, medicinal plants etc.
THEME II: Coordination of multilateral & bilateral assistance	•**Forest Advisors Group (FAG)**, main existing informal forum for donor coordination of forest -related assistance. Meets twice a year. •Test case of donor coordination for forests in Guyana, on-going. •Development of the concept of **Forest Partnership Agreements [FPAs]**, which will address *inter alia* NFPs, donor coordination, and factors outside the forest sector. •Cooperation and partnership in forestry between FAO and ITTO •Cooperation and partnership in forestry between FAO and World Bank	•**FAG next meeting: Nov-Dec,1995** •Country consultations regarding feasibility of FPAs, given donor support. •Proposed Bali Partnership Fund under the ITTA, 1994 upon its entry into force	Bilateral donors, FAO, UNDP, World Bank. UNEP Bilateral/ multilateral donors. UNDP [World Bank] UNEP FAO/ITTO ITTO, bilateral donors, FAO, UNDP, World Bank, World Bank, FAO	**"A study on coordination in sustainable forestry development"**[key work on coordination, June 1993, recommendations still valid.] Documentation of experiences? NFPs: Principles and Partnership (**Forest Partnerships paper**), May 1995.	Forest Advisors Group UNDP	Study on possible ways and means of enhancing efficiency in delivering forest programmes including proposals for cooperation. (i) among UN agencies, including the World Bank; (ii) between multi- and bi-lateral donors. Meeting formulating an expert perspective on this issue.

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
Technology transfer	•Programmes supporting transfer of technology for utilization of wood resources for furniture and construction		UNIDO			See above
	• Environmental sound technologies for wood processes		UNEP			
		•Two regional workshops on **Technology Transfer for Better Utilization of Forest Resources**. Forthcoming	FAO			
		•FAO/IUFRO Satellite Meeting, Research on Environmentally Sound Forest Practices to Sustain Tropical Forests. **1995**	FAO/ IUFRO			
		•FAO/ECE/ILO Seminar on Environmentally Sound Forest Roads and Wood Transport in Romania 1996	FAO/ECE/ ILO			
		•FAO/ IUFRO/CIFOR Regional Expert Consultations on Low Impact Forest Operations to Sustain Tropical Forests in Asia, in Latin America and Africa. **1997**	FAO/IUFRO/ CIFOR			
		•Second meeting of COP of CBD, will establish a clearing house mechanism for technical and scientific cooperation which will contribute to the transfer of technology. Jakarta, Indonesia **6-17 Nov. 1996.**	CBD			

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
Mobilizing additional resources	•General work and support for devising innovative financing for **sustainable development**.		UNDP, World Bank, GEF, OECD,			see above.
	•Ongoing work on resource mobilization, capacity building, and innovative financing for forests in World Bank, FAO, UNDP, the GEF through its biodiversity portfolio, and the ITTO [through the Bali Partnership Fund].		World Bank, FAO, UNDP, GEF, ITTO			
		•Meeting: Servicing Innovative Financing for Sustainable Development, Earth Council/World Bank, **Oct. 1995**.	Earth Council /World Bank.			
		•Second meeting of COP of CBD, will consider a study by the Secretariat on the availability of financial resources additional to those through GEF and the ways and means for mobilizing and channeling these in support of the objectives of the Convention. Jakarta, Indonesia **6-17 Nov. 1996.**	CBD			
				Proposed ITTO Working Group report on resources need for sustainable forest management. **December 1995**	ITTO	

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
THEME III.1 Assessment **Data gathering, ways to broaden scientific knowledge.**	•**Forest resource assessments programme,** on-going activities.	•Meeting with forestry inventory experts to agree on definitions and methods for the next round of global assessment, **1996 or 1997.**	FAO	"**Forest Resources Assessment 1990: Global Synthesis**"	FAO	Discussion paper leading towards a framework for expanded and enhanced forest assessment with a view to obtaining more qualitative information on environmental and social benefits, as well as information on other non-wood forest products and biological resources.
		•Meetings aiming at capacity building in forestry inventory and its integration in strategic planning. Forthcoming.	FAO			
	•Review of national authorities of information on protected areas legally designated for conservation purpose.		UNEP/ WCMC	"1993 United Nations List of National parks and Protected Areas"	UNEP	Expert Meeting A meeting of experts, co-sponsored by one or more countries to enrich understanding of this complex issue.
	•Surveys of Conserved Areas (extent and location, in tropical forests).		IUCN			
				"Guidelines and Parameters for Global Forest Assessment" Forthcoming.	UNEP/FAO	

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
Methods for valuing multiple benefits derived from forests, including economic, ecological, cultural and social functions/services; and their inclusion in systems of national accounting.	•Consultative Expert Group meeting on Valuation of Environment and Natural Resources, 8-10 August, 1994, Nairobi		UNEP	Report of the Consultative Meeting. (Paper No. 11) Economic values and the Environment in the Developing World (Paper No.14)	UNEP	Could benefit from discussion of accurate valuation of forest products under the trade theme, yet needs to go beyond valuation of *products* to valuation of the environmental and social services provided by forests. Discussion paper presenting status of current approaches to valuate the multiple benefits of forests and an assessment of progress towards application and incorporation of innovative approaches into national accounts.
		• Development of guidelines and methodologies on the use of environmental valuations for biodiversity and land resources	UNEP/ UNSTAT/ OECD			
		•Development and application of methodologies for environmental and natural resources accounting.	UNEP/ UNSTAT/ OECD/WB			
	•Some work in GEF on value of forests as carbon sinks; GEF carbon sequestration projects in Benin and Sudan.		GEF	Project reports available.		Expert Meeting See meeting suggested above.
	•Work by ITTO [see theme IV as well].		ITTO	**"Forest Resource Accounting"** (to establish a methodology to assess forest resources).	ITTO	
				"Accounting for sustainable forestry management: A case study"	UNCTAD	

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
III. 2 C & I for sustainable forest management.	•**Amazonian** process, regional workshop, Peru, Feb. 1995.		Amazon countries	Final Report: **Definition of C&I for Sustainability of Amazonian forests,** Feb 1995	Amazon countries	This item has received a great deal of attention; but there is a need for further work relating to internationally agreed upon C&I, including whether there is a need to promote comparability; and the appropriateness of convergence. Expert meeting on compatibility and convergence between various initiatives on criteria and indicators. The proposed inter-governmental seminar in Finland could serve to integrate the numerous initatives and processes relevant to this issue. Paper building on the outcome of various initiatives, as well as of FAO/UNEP regional meetings.
	•**Helsinki** Process, latest GCC meeting, Poland, June 1995	•Helsinki Process Round Table, Brussels, **Nov. 95**	European temp. and boreal countries	Helsinki Process document: **Interim Report on Follow-up of the 2nd Ministerial Conference,** 1995.	European temp. and boreal countries.	
	•**Montreal** Process, last meeting, Chile, Feb. 1995.	•Montreal process meeting, New Zealand **30 Oct.-4 Nov. 95**	Non-European temp. and boreal countries	Montreal Process document: **C&I for Conservation and Sustainable Management of Boreal and Temperate Forests,** Feb. 1995.	Non-European temp. and boreal countries	
	•**ITTO** guidelines and criteria for tropical forests, developed 1992-93.	•Activities to help producer countries implement these guidelines and criteria.	ITTO [for tropical countries]	ITTO **Guidelines for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests** [and Criteria for Measurement]; **Guidelines on Conservation of Biological Diversity of Tropical Production Forests,** 1992-93.	ITTO [for tropical countries]	
	•FAO/ITTO Expert Consultation: Harmonization of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, Feb 1995		FAO/ ITTO	Report of FAO/ITTO Expert Consultation, Feb. 1995.	FAO/ ITTO	
		•FAO/UNEP Meeting for Dry Zone Africa. Nairobi **Nov. 95**	FAO/ UNEP			
		•FAO/UNEP Meeting for Near East. **May. 96**	FAO/ UNEP			

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
cont. of III.2		•FAO/UNEP Meeting for Central America and the Caribbean. **mid 1996**	FAO/UNEP			
		•**Finnish Intergovernmental Seminar** on Criteria and Indicators for SFM. **16-19 Sept. 1996**	Finland/ other govts.			
		•Expert Meeting for harmonization of C&I for sustainable forest management, **Rome, 1997**	FAO			
	•Number of NGO initiatives to develop guidelines and criteria for good forest management.		NGOs	Eg: WWF Criteria for Forest Quality; Greenpeace Guidelines for Ecologically Responsible Forest Use [date?]	WWF, Greenpeace.	
	.•Number of private sector initiatives to define SFM [see theme IV for more details].		FSC, other.	FSC Principles of Forest Management, 1994.	FSC	

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
THEME IV Trade in forest products: relationship to environment				**"Economic linkages between the international trade in tropical timber and the Sust. management of tropical forests"** [2 vol. report to ITTO by IIED, March 1993].	ITTO	**For all of IV** Discussion paper addressing (i) trade in forest products and prevailing market mechanisms, including market access and prices on non-wood products, (ii) review and assessment of the nature and the current status of various schemes/initiatives on product certification and labeling, and (iii) formulation of internationally accepted basis for product certification and labelling schemes and initiatives.
				International Trade in Forest Products & the Environment". 1995	FAO	
				Study: Assessment of the Effects of the Uruguay Round Agreement on the International Trade in Forest Products.	FAO	
	•Joint UNDP/UNCTAD project on **"Reconciliation of Environmental and trade policies"** [support for 15 country case studies], synthesis documents available].		UNDP/ UNCTAD		OECD	Expert Groups Country(ies)' sponsored meeting of experts addressing these crucial issues.
	•Various UNDP/UNCTAD Expert Group Meetings on Trade & Environment. Latest: **April 1995.** Report available.		UNDP/ UNCTAD	**"Implications of the Uruguay Round for trade in wod and wood products"**	UNCTAD	
	•Workshops by OECD on trade, environment and **development cooperation**, on trade, environment and **process & production methods**, and on trade, environment, & **eco-labelling**. All held in 1994.		OECD	**Trade and Environment**, OECD report, compilation of workshop results, 1994.		•Work in this area has so far been on the general theme of trade and environment, except for the specific studies listed.
Theme IV contd... next page		• Development of methodologies fro analysis of the environmental impact of selected trade and macro economic policies on biodiversity and land resources	UNEP/WTO/ UNCTAD/ UNDP/ OECD/WB			
		• Regional workshops on the relationship between environment and trade.	UNEP/ Regional Development Banks.			

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
market access/ pricing/ controls/ subsides etc	•World Conference on Tropical Plywood, Ecuador 1995		ITTO			More work needed on market access and prices for non-wood forest products. Should build upon work by FAO in this area.
				CINTRAFOR model on global trade in forest products, John Perez; date?	CINTR-AFOR, USA.	
	•FAO work on trade in forest products, activities of the Advisory Committee on Pulp and Paper, and Private Forest Industry, reports available.		FAO	•Various studies: **Assessment of the Effects of the URA on the Int'l Trade in Forest Products**, [Barbieri, ongoing]; **A Study of Trade Restrictions Affecting Trade in Non-Wood Forest Products** [Iqbal, ongoing].	FAO	
	•WTO Committee on Trade and Environment [CTE], analytical work, currently at initial stage.	•CTE to report to next WTO Ministerial Meeting regarding whether specific WTO rules require modification for environmental purposes, **date?**	WTO	**Environmental Benefits of Removing Trade Restrictions and Distortions** [brief discussion of wood and wood products], Feb. 1995.	WTO	
	•Expert Consultation on Non-Wood Forest Products, Indonesia, Jan. 1995.		Govt. of Indonesia/ FAO	Summary Proceedings of Expert Consultation, March 95.	FAO	
	•Review of scope and constraints in marketing non-timber forest products in Asia & exports from Asia , May 95.		World Bank			
	•Initiative on "Creation of awareness of non-wood forest products" [date?]		FAO	Annual Information Bulletin: **Non-Wood News**; and a range of other studies/ publications.		
	•IUCN work on non-wood forest products. ??		IUCN			

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	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
certification and labelling	•Workshops and studies by UNCTAD & UNEP on trade and eco-labelling, (mostly general, not specific to forest products)		UNCTAD/ UNEP			Gaps •more work required on designing incentive systems to manage forests sustainably, for producers to be interested in SFM and certification •work needed to determine a widely acceptable basis for certification, i.e. some harmonization of diverse criteria currently being applied by different entities •capacity building to comply with outside certifier's requirements, and to develop own national certification systems.
		• Environmental economic assessment on biodiversity related products for standards equivalency in different national eco-labelling schemes.	UNEP/ISO/ UNCTAD			
				"Is there a commercial case for tropical timber certification ?" June 1994	World Bank	
				"Certification Schemes for all Timber & Timber products", [Ghazali & Simula], Mar 1993	ITTO	
				"Market Segments for Certified Tropical Timber", forthcoming	ITTO	
				"Forest Products Certification: A Background Note" March 1995	FAO	
	•Roundtable to discuss certification in Africa, date?	•Follow-up activities?	ATO	Documentation on ISO 14000?		
	•Work by ISO on standards for environmental management, i.e. the ISO 14000 series; Canadian Standards Association [CSO]'s "forest management standards", 1994.	•Oslo meeting to discuss ISO 14,000 [will have bearing for forest products], **July 1995;**	ISO, CSO		ISO	
				"Certification and eco-labelling of timber and timber products"	UNCTAD	
	•Range of private sector/NGO certification initiatives		RainforestAll, SCS, SGS			
				Documentation available		
	•Forest Stewardship Council work on accreditation of certification companies	•FSC decisions in **July 1995** on accreditation of the first few national and foreign certification companies/programmes	FSC	Guidelines for certification companies available	Rainforest Alliance, SCS, SGS FSC	

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
methodologies for full valuation/ promoting full cost internalization...	See III.1	See III.1		See III.1		See III.1
THEME V **V.1. Clearer view of work being done by international organizations, multilateral institutions, relevance of other agreements, to identify gaps, linkages and duplication.**				Previous studies which could be useful: • **Review of Forest Principles Three Years After Rio**. UNEP May 1995 •**World Forestry Leadership**, CIDA Discussion Paper, Roberts, Pringle and Nagle, December 1991. •**A Study on Coordination in Sustainable Forestry Development**, FAG, June1993. •**Dialogue on Forests: Approaches, Opportunities, and Options for Action**, IWGF Report, October 1994. Submissions to CSD 1995 by organizations regarding their own role. •**OECD** 1995 Progress Report on implementing Agenda 21; submission to CSD 1995. •**World Bank** Contribution to the Progress Report on Implementation of Agenda 21, Chapter 11. •**ITTO** Sustainable Forest Management and the Implementation of UNCED Forestry-Related Decisions and Agreements, April 1995. Also: •**Report of the High Level Panel of External Experts on Forestry**, Oct 1994 [on the role of FAO in forests]		Paper presenting an overview of existing institutions and instruments, identifying overlaps, gaps.

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PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	ACTIVITIES		ORG. INVOLVED	PUBLICATIONS/STUDIES/REPORTS	ORG. INVOLVED	PROPOSALS FOR ACTION
	Recent/Ongoing	Planned/Upcoming		Significant for the Work of the Panel		Preparatory Work Required
V.2 Need or otherwise for instruments or arrangements						See above

List of Acronyms used in the table

AFWC:	African Forestry and Wildlife Commission
ACTS:	African Centre for Technology Studies
CIDA:	Canadian International Development Agency
CINTRAFOR:	Center for International Trade in Forest Products [Univ. of Washington]
CSO:	Canadian Standards Organization
FAG:	Forest Advisors Group
FPAs:	Forest Partnership Agreements
GEF:	Global Environmental Facility
ICRAF:	International Center for Research on Agro Forestry
IIED:	International Institute for Environment and Development
ITTO:	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUFRO:	International Union of Forestry Research Organizations
NFAP:	National Forest Action Programme
OECD/DAC:	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/ Development Assistance Committee
SCS:	Scientific Certification Systems
UNCTAD:	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNEP:	United Nations Environment Programme
WRI:	World Resources Institute
WWF:	World Wide Fund for Nature
ATO:	African Timber Organization
CBD:	Convention on Biological Diversity
CIFOR:	Center for International Forestry Research
COP:	Conference of the Parties
EFRI:	European Forestry Research Institute
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Programme
FSC:	Forest Stewardship Council
GLOBE:	
IDRC:	International ...
ISO:	International Standards Organization
IUCN:	World Conservation Union
IWGF:	Inter-Governmental Working Group [Canadian/Malaysian Initiative]
NFPs:	National Forest Programmes
SGS:	Societe Generale de Swisse
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNSO:	United Nations Office to Combat Desertification and Drought
WTO:	World Trade Organization